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*#21 Pro Ammt 4*  
Our Case No. 6270/26

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Simon H. Lightbody, et al.

Serial No.: 09/370,696

Filing Date: August 9, 1999

For: EXTERNAL I/O AND  
COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE  
FOR A REVENUE METER

) Examiner: Timothy Edwards

) Group Art Unit No.: 2635

### Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed August 14, 2002 and the Supplemental Notice of Allowance mailed September 12, 2002, and further to the accompanying Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) mailed herewith, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks.

#### In the Claims

Please cancel claims 42 and 68 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 29, 38, 46, 61, 63, 65, and 72 and enter new claims 85-99

as follows:

*Sh*  
20. (Thrice amended) A metering apparatus, said metering apparatus measuring the delivery of electrical energy from an energy supplier to a consumer through a first electric circuit, said metering apparatus comprising:

a revenue meter enclosed within an enclosure;

an I/O device physically separate from said enclosure;

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